

## REMARKS

In this amendment, objected to claims 7, 21 and 30 have been rewritten in accordance with the Examiner's instructions, claims 1, 6, 20, and 29, and 31 have been cancelled without prejudice or surrender of subject matter, so that they may be later prosecuted in a continuing application. Claims 2, 3, 8, 13, 14, 22-25, and 32-34 have been amended. Accordingly, in the above referenced application claims 2-5, 7-19, 21-28, 30, and 32-34 remain pending.

In the above-mentioned Office Action:

(a) claims 1-6, 8-20, 22-25, 29 and 31-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,046,762 to Sonesh in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,369,909 to Reksten;

(b) claims 26-28 have been allowed; and

(c) claims 7, 21, and 30 have been objected to but, according to the Office Action, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form incorporating the limitations of the base and intermediary claim.

Applicant disagrees that claims 1-6, 8-20, 22-25, 29 and 31-34 (as they were prior to the current changes) are unpatentable over the cited references, resubmits the previously made arguments regarding these claims, and reserves the right to later present these claims in a continuing application. In addition, Applicant disagrees with the characterization that there is any call object in Sonesh and that Reksten teaches a plurality of call manager objects with a call manager object being present in each of the plurality of computing nodes. The items 14a-c in FIG. 2 of Reksten, cited in support of this proposition, are network interface units, and not the call objects of the present invention. However, Applicant reserves the right to present these arguments in a continuing application.

To secure allowance of the objected to claims, claims 7, 21 and 30 have been rewritten to incorporate the limitations of the base and any intermediary claims. As will be more fully explained below, Applicant believes that the above-enumerated claims as now presented are now in allowable form.

In particular, rewritten claim 7 now includes the limitations from now cancelled claim 6, and now cancelled claim 1, from which claim 6 (an intervening claim) depended. It should be made clear, however, that the phrases "...according to alternate routing information..." and

“wherein the alternate routing information includes...” (from claims 6 and 7) have been eliminated and, instead, the alternate routing information is now directly recited in claim. Namely, due to the combination of elements in a single claim, intermediate phraseology is not needed when a direct reference can be made. In this case, the intermediate phraseology (“...according to alternate routing information...” and “wherein the alternate routing information includes...”) is not needed when the direct recitation of “mail box information and the operator information” is provided.

Furthermore, rewritten claim 21 now includes limitations from now cancelled claim 20 from which it depended, and from now cancelled claim 1 from which claim 20 depended. Rewritten claim 30 now includes limitations from now cancelled claim 29 from which it depended.

Claim 31 is cancelled without prejudice or surrender of subject matter, so that it can be presented in a continuing application.


Claims 2, 3, 8, 13, 14, 22-25, and 32-34 are amended to change their dependencies from the cancelled claims to the rewritten claims.

Because claims 7, 21 and 30 are now rewritten in accordance with the Examiner’s instructions and claims 2, 3, 8, 13, 14, 22-25, and 32-34 are amended to depend from an allowable claim, Applicant believes the pending claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to deposit account 50-2778. Should any matter remain unresolved or if any question remains unanswered the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned Applicant's attorney at (650) 813-4856.

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Respectfully submitted

  
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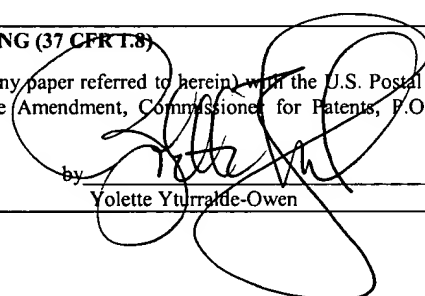
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by

  
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